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Letter dated 18 January 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to attach a statement (see annex) issued by the Government of Uganda following the recent political developments in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

I should be grateful if you would bring this statement to the attention of the members of the Council and circulate it as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Fred **Beyendeza**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Statement on recent developments in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Government of Uganda has followed with concern recent political developments in the Democratic Republic of the Congo involving the assassination of President Laurent Kabila.

The Government wishes to make it clear that it does not approve of political assassination as a method of removing leaders from power.

While the Government of Uganda has had some differences with the Kinshasa regime under the leadership of Laurent Kabila, these differences were based on policies rather than personalities. For this reason the Government of Uganda will be prepared to work with whoever assumes effective leadership in Kinshasa in order to establish peace in the region.

The Government of Uganda appeals to the new leadership in Kinshasa to give top priority to the building of peace in the region within the framework of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement. In particular, the new leadership is urged to address the security interests of neighbours of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including Uganda, and to convene a national dialogue that should lead to the establishment of a new political dispensation in the country.

Meanwhile the Government of Uganda wishes to make it clear that it does not intend to take advantage of the current political crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Finally, the Government of Uganda wishes to refute press rumours which have been attributed to Mr. Godefroid Tcham'lesso, Minister Delegate for Defence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, linking the Government of Uganda to the assassination of the late President Laurent Kabila.